

REMARKS

Claim 11 is the sole claim presented for consideration.

The specification has been reviewed and amended to correct minor informalities and improve its idiomatic English form. In amending the specification, the title has been changed as suggested by the Examiner.

A new abstract has been added to better set forth the technical aspects of the disclosed invention.

Applicants note with appreciation that Claim 11 was indicated as containing patentable subject matter. In response to this indication, Claim 11 has been placed in independent form. It should be noted, however, that the subject matter of Claim 9 was not included in Claim 11 because it would be redundant.

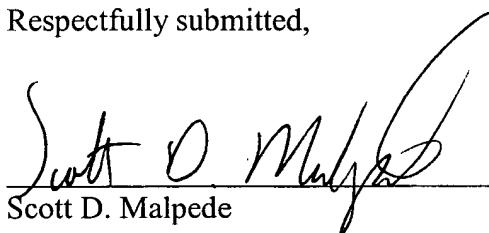
Claims 1-3, 6, 8, 9 and 12-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being obvious over Mitsutake '715 in view of Yonezawa '857. In addition, Claims 4, 5, 7 and 10 stand rejected as allegedly being obvious over those citations and further in view of Yamazaki '619.

Without conceding the propriety of these rejections, Claims 1-10 and 12-19 have been cancelled and will be presented in a separately-filed continuing application. These rejections are therefore deemed to be moot and should be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of this application is deemed to be in order and such action is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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